

Message Text

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10
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ERDA-05 OES-06 NRC-05 NASA-01 /073 W
----- 055080

P 140726Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2932

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, JA
SUBJECT: REENACTMENT OF HIROSHIMA BOMBING

REF: STATE 253865

1. EMBOFF MET OCTOBER 14 WITH FIRST NORTH AMERICA
DIVDIR WATANABE, WHO MADE ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY
FOLLOWING ORAL PRESENTATION ON REENACTMENT OF HIROSHIMA
BOMBING:

2. QTE. ACCORDING TO AP DISPATCH FROM ARLINGTON, TEXAS,
A MOCK SHOW OF AN ATOMIC BOMB DROP BY A B-29 WAS HELD
AT AN AIR SHOW THERE OCTOBER 11. WHILE WE ASSUME THE
AIR SHOW WAS SPONSORED BY A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION,
THERE ARE REPORTS THAT A TEAM OF US ARMY DEMOLITION
EXPERTS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE SHOW. WE WOULD,
THEREFORE, LIKE TO REQUEST THAT YOU FIND OUT THE
NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE AIR SHOW IN GENERAL AND THE
MOCK A-BOMB SHOW IN PARTICULAR. IN ANY EVENT, WE HAVE
TO POINT OUT THAT AN ACT OF THIS PARTICULAR NATURE
RUNS COUNTER TO AND PROVOKES NATIONAL SENTIMENT IN THIS
COUNTRY WHERE THE MEMORY OF HUMAN SUFFERING BY
ATOMIC BOMBING IN HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI STILL
PAINFULLY PERSISTS. UNQTE

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3. ACTING ON DEPARTMENT'S TIMELY GUIDANCE EMBOFF PRESENTED
WATANABE WITH FACTS OUTLINED
REFTEL, STRESSED POINTS OUTLINED IN PARA 4, AND
EXPRESSED DEEP REGRETS FOR ANY OFFENSE TO
JAPANESE SENSIBILITIES. HE EXPLAINED THAT
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS HAD ARRANGED TO MEET DEPUTY
DIRECTOR OF CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE AND OUTLINED MEDIA RESPONSES
PREPARED BY DEPARTMENT.

4. WATANABE THANKED EMBOFF FOR PRESENTATION
AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO HIS SUPERIORS
WHO EXPECT QUESTIONS ON AIR SHOW TO ARISE IN
DIET TODAY. HE EXPRESSED PRIVATE VIEW THAT LETTER
FROM ORGANIZERS OF AIR SHOW EXPRESSING REGRET
WOULD HELP CALM FEELINGS IN JAPAN UPSET BY INCIDENT.
EMBOFF PROMISED TO RELAY WATANABE'S SUGGESTION.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, TEXT, NUCLEAR BOMBS, AIR SHOWS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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